

REMARKS

With this amendment, claim 1 is amended and claims 58-62 are added. Claims 58-62 find support, for example, in the claims as originally filed.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the elected subject matter. Applicant reserves the right to pursue non-elected subject matter in continuation applications.

Applicant submits that the rejections of the claims set forth in the Office Action dated January 4, 2006 are rendered moot by the claim amendments. Although Applicant has deleted reference to stereoisomeric forms of formulas (Ia) and (Ib), it will be understood that the claims encompass stereoisomeric forms, including mixtures of stereoisomeric forms of formulas (Ia) and (Ib).

To the extent that the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as allegedly indefinite for the chelator definition is applied to claim 58, Applicant respectfully traverses, at least because a skilled artisan would have not difficulty determining whether a selected chelator falls within the scope of the claims. *In re Mercier*, 185 U.S.P.Q. 774 (C.C.P.A. 1975) (claims sufficiently define an invention so long as one skilled in the art can determine what subject matter is or is not within the scope of the claims). Moreover, a skilled artisan would clearly understand that certain of the variable groups will need to be placed in an internal position of the chelator structure and others, at an external position, depending on their valences. Determining which variables are to be placed at internal positions and which are to be placed at external positions is well within the abilities of the skilled artisan. Accordingly, the claim fully complies with the requirements of §112 and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of the claims as allegedly indefinite be withdrawn.

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**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

The foregoing represents a *bona fide* attempt to advance the present case to allowance. Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an indication of allowability and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

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